Speech from the Throne

by

The Honourable Lloyd G. MacPhail
Lieutenant Governor

at the Opening of the

First Session

of the

Fifty-Eighth General Assembly

of the Province of

Prince Edward Island

on

June 15th, 1989

at 3:00 p.m.

91-03640/

MR. SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY:

It is my privilege, in the name of the Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, to welcome you to the First Session of the Fifty-Eighth General Assembly of the Province of Prince Edward Island.

It gives me pleasure to welcome those newly elected Members of this Assembly as they take up the duties and responsibilities inherent in their elected office.

Through the democratic process, the people of Prince Edward Island have chosen all Members of this Legislative Assembly to represent their interests and concerns. They have placed their trust in you to carry out the business of the Province in a fair and just manner. Fairness, justice, and equality are the essence of democracy and take form in the firmly entrenched conventions, traditions, and rights of our democratic system.

Events of the past few weeks, although a world away in one sense, serve as an intimate reminder of the perils and tragic consequences of a system which lacks respect for the individual and ignores the concept of universal equality.

MR. SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY:

Since this Assembly last met, My Government has placed before the electorate its vision for the Province and the people of Prince Edward ISland.

Over the preceding three years, My Government has developed and enhanced numerous programs and services to the benefit of all Prince Edward Islanders, especially the working men and women of our Province. It is with modesty and humility, but with unremitting confidence in its ability to lead, that My Government accepts the sound mandate given it by the people of Prince Edward Island.

My Government renews its pledge to provide fair, just, and stable government and to offer the services and programs that Prince Edward Islanders deserve.

MR. SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY:

Budget deficits must continue to be a concern of all governments. The need for deficit control, however, can not justify the Government of Canada's attack on our Region and our Province. Efforts to curb Federal Government spending must not involve an inequitable distribution of the burden of budgetary restraint. My Government, in concert with the Governments of the other Atlantic Provinces and representatives of Island municipalities, will insist that the Region and our Province be given the full economic and social opportunity provided for under the Canadian constitution.

My Government will continue its forceful opposition to the planned closure of the Canadian Forces Base in Summerside. My Government assures the people of the East Prince Region and all Prince Edward Islanders, that determination, not despair, will mark My Government's efforts to address this serious issue.

MR. SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY:

My Government will offer for your consideration the same Budget presented during the last Assembly. You will be asked to consider an amendment to the Prince Edward Island *Human Rights Act* which will define "political belief." As well, you will be asked to examine certain Legislative proposals and consider further departmental reports for the year ending March 31st, 1989.

MR. SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY:

You will be asked to appropriate the funds for the services and payments required by this Assembly.

Les recettes et les dépenses prévues pour l'année financière se terminant le 31 mars 1989 de même qu'une estimation des recettes et des dépenses pour l'année financière débutant le 1er avril 1989 seront présentées pour votre considération.

Que la divine Providence vous guide dans vos délibérations.

The estimated revenues and expenditures forecast for the fiscal year ending March 31st, 1989, and estimation of revenues and expenditures of the fiscal year beginning April 1st, 1989, will be presented for your consideration.

May Divine Providence guide you in your deliberations.